

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, BU (STOITCHKOV, NIKIFOR)

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITOR: PROGRAM DESIRES

FOR CU/IVP AND CU/EE (INFO: EUR/EE)

REF: A) STATE 1057; B) SOFIA 2137

1. STOITCHKOV HAS GIVEN AMBASSADOR LIST OF SUBJECTS WHICH, TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, HE DESIRES INVESTIGATE WHILE IN U.S. IT INCLUDES:

A. FORECASTING TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS: SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF STUDYING AND PLANNING, TECHNICAL-ECONOMIC INDICES AND CRITERIA.

B. INTERRELATIONS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PERSONAL TRANSPORT: URBAN, SUBURBAN AND INTERURBAN; RAIL, BUS, AIR, RIVER AND AUTO. ORGANIZATION OF TRAVEL ALONG ONE ROUTE BY DIFFERENT MODES OF TRANSPORT.

C. PASSENGER SERVICING: INFORMATION, BOOKING AND SELLING TICKETS, CHECKING TICKETS, LUGGAGE HANDLING, AT-TERMINAL AND IN-TRANSIT SERVICES (MEALS, SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS, ENTERTAINMENT, ETC.).

D. RENT-A-CAR AND RENT-A-TRUCK SERVICES.

E. SYSTEMS FOR INSPECTING PASSENGER TRANSPORT VEHICLES: STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION.

F. VEHICULAR SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE, INCLUDING IN-TRANSIT SERVICE (E.G., ROADSIDE SERVICE STATIONS).

G. PERSONNEL TRAINING, INCLUDING BY TRANSPORT FIRMS AND BY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

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H. PRICING POLICIES AND SYSTEMS FOR PASSENGER TRANSPORT.

I. SOCIAL SERVICES FOR TRANSPORT WORKERS. (EMBASSY SUGGESTS STOITCHKOV MEET WITH OFFICIALS OF U.S. UNIONS AND VISIT HOMES OF VARIOUS TRANSPORT WORKERS.)

2. PARA 1 ANSWERS REFTEL A QUESTION ON SPECIFIC AREAS OF PASSENGER TRANSPORT IN WHICH STOITCHKOV INTERESTED. IN ADDITION, HE ASKS IN CARGO TRANSPORT FIELD TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH MANAGEMENT OF VARIOUS TYPES AND COORDINATION AMONG THEM (E.G., "PIGGY-BACK" TRANSPORT, CONTAINERIZATION, PALLETIZATION, REFRIGERATED EXPRESS TRUCKING).

3. STOITCHKOV NOTED HE WROTE DOWN THESE ABOVE TOPICS AFTER READING MATERIALS ON U.S. TRANSPORT EMBASSY HAD PROVIDED HIM. HE WILL HAVE FULL LIST (IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION) WITH HIM, BUT FOREGOING SHOULD PERMIT ROUGHING OUT SCHEDULE. EMBASSY COMMENT: LIST IS EVIDENCE STOITCHKOV INTENDS OBTAIN MAXIMUM POSSIBLE FROM HIS TRIP AND FURTHER CONFIRMS OUR IMPRESSION (REFTEL B, PARA 4) HE WILL BE MOTIVATED BY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES IN HIS PROFESSIONAL FIELD DURING GRANT PERIOD MUCH MORE THAN BY DESIRE TO LEARN ABOUT U.S. IN GENERAL. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE HE WILL ALSO BE AMENABLE TO SOME SIGHTSEEING AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS AS WELL AS MORE GENERAL FAMILIARIZATION WITH U.S. SCENE PROVIDED SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE NOT AT EXPENSE OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL STUDY ASPECTS OF HIS VISIT.

4. WE WISH TO CALL ATTENTION TO POSSIBILITY STOITCHKOV VISIT MAY ALSO INDIRECTLY LEAD TO SALES OF U.S. EQUIPMENT TO BULGARIA. THIS MIGHT BE BORNE IN MIND IN HIS SCHEDULING.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING AT WHAT LEVEL STOITCHKOV WILL BE RECEIVED BY U.S. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION. AS FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, HE CORRESPONDS TO DOT UNDER SECRETARY.

6. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS ON ANOTHER STOITCHKOV REQUEST.
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